

**Life Group Study based on Message of March 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**Part 2... What Happens One Minute After You Die?**

**WELCOME /PRAYER**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

April 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6:30 pm – Auditorium-**MORE TO LIFE** (This month-Developing a effective prayer life)

April 5<sup>th</sup> –5:00 pm – Clinton Community Center - Chili Fundraiser dinner for Missions

April 8<sup>th</sup> –6:30 pm **GROUP LIFE**-All facilitators, hosts, apprentices; helping with your ministry)

**April 12<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 am – “Intro to Hispanic Culture” Class.** Learn and understand the Hispanic people from two 9 year veterans of a mission’s team from Costa Rica. The class will only last about 1 hour and 15 minutes. Child care will be provided. This will be a total necessity for our up coming out reach ministry to the Hispanics in our area.

**OPENING THOUGHTS AND ILLUSTRATIONS:**

Getting the big picture of Death:

If you can locate a Polaroid camera and take some funny pictures of the group or individuals. The key is to have everyone watch the process of the picture develop.

Then explain the following (If you can’t find a Polaroid Camera just explain the picture taking process as this); When you take film to be developed they process your negatives by putting them in different chemicals until they reach a point that they can be put on photo paper and whatever was on the negative can then be seen by the natural eye in it’s finished state.

What is between the negative and the developed picture is called the "process". You will never get a picture from a negative unless you process it. Development is the result. Anything underdeveloped is no good)

**ICE BREAKER QUESTION**

1. Make the statement “Death is the process by which we live for eternity”and then ask the following;  
**“How can we stop looking at the process of death as horrible frightening and even hopeless event and look at it as the development which will open up the opportunity to live forever.”**

Consider this... We fight the death process so hard because we keep thinking that the pain is going to kill us and God has to keep reminding us that yes it is going to kill us, but it’s supposed to. **OR...**

2. Ask do you know anybody that had a near death experience and ask them to tell about it?

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this lesson is to give the student a scriptural understanding what happens the moment we die.

## DEEPER STUDY

Read this statement: ***“While your relatives and friends plan your funeral—deciding on the casket, the burial plot, and the pallbearers, you will be more alive than you have ever been before. You will either see God on His throne surrounded by angels and others that have accepted Jesus as Lord or you will feel an indescribable weight of guilt and abandonment. There is not a destination between these two extremes, just gladness or gloom.”***

Ask Different people to read different sections from their Bibles

**KEY VERSES:** 1 Corinthians 15:35-52

35 *“But someone may ask, ‘How are the dead raised? What kind of body will they have?’”* 36 *Foolish person! When you sow a seed, it must die in the ground before it can live and grow.* 37 *And when you sow it, it does not have the same “body” it will have later. What you sow is only a bare seed, maybe wheat or something else.* 38 *But God gives it a body that he has planned for it, and God gives each kind of seed its own body.”* (Discuss...Death must take place in order to live)

39 *“All things made of flesh are not the same: People have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds have another, and fish have another.* 40 *Also there are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies. But the beauty of the heavenly bodies is one kind, and the beauty of the earthly bodies is another.* 41 *The sun has one kind of beauty, the moon has another beauty, and the stars have another. And each star is different in its beauty.* (Discuss...No reincarnation to being a dog-cat)

42 *“It is the same with the dead who are raised to life. The body that is “planted” will ruin and decay, but it is raised to a life that cannot be destroyed.* 43 *When the body is “planted,” it is without honor, but it is raised in glory. When the body is “planted,” it is weak, but when it is raised, it is powerful.”*

44 *“The body that is “planted” is a physical body. When it is raised, it is a spiritual body.”* There is a physical body, and there is also a spiritual body. 45 *It is written in the Scriptures: “The first man, Adam, became a living person.”* But the last Adam became a spirit that gives life. 46 *The spiritual did not come first, but the physical and then the spiritual.* 47 *The first man came from the dust of the earth. The second man came from heaven.* 48 *People who belong to the earth are like the first man of earth. But those people who belong to heaven are like the man of heaven.* 49 *Just as we were made like the man of earth, so we will also be made like the man of heaven.”* **(Discuss the characteristics of a person in heaven-spiritual, immortal...)**

50 *“I tell you this, brothers and sisters: Flesh and blood cannot have a part in the kingdom of God. Something that will ruin cannot have a part in something that never ruins.* 51 *But look! I tell you this secret: We will not all sleep in death, but we will all be changed.* 52 *It will take only a second—as quickly as an eye blinks—when the last trumpet sounds. The trumpet will sound, and those who have died will be raised to live forever, and we will all be changed.”*

**(Discuss how when you come to know Christ you will never lose your salvation –Romans 8:38-39)**

### **What does not happen!**

**Channeling:** Channeling is the practice of trying to enter into a meditative or trancelike state to convey messages from the dead. It doesn't work! The dead, whether with Christ or in Hades can not be reached?

Some people claim to have talks with the dead. When this does seem to take place it is very possible that Satan or his demons impersonate the dead to create the illusion that there is another spiritual world outside of Christ.

Scripture speaks such acts in 2 Corinthians 11:13-14 "*They change themselves to look like apostles of Christ. <sup>14</sup>This does not surprise us. Even Satan changes himself to look like an angel of light.*" It is important to note attempting to talking with the dead is consistently condemned by God (Deuteronomy 8:12, Leviticus 19:31).

**Reincarnation:** This principle teaches that we just keep being recycled. So therefore we need never fear the consequences of death. There are no foundational principals or even a hint of the suggestion in the Bible that reincarnation takes places. We are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26) and as we have read in 1 Corinthians 15:38 God created us to be who we are through eternity.

Scripture speaks of people that make such claims in 2 Corinthians 11:13-14 "*Such men are not true apostles but are workers who lie....*"

### **Are there such things as near Death Experiences? YES!**

We have reason to believe a person may see Christ in the zone between life and death. Before Stephan was stoned God gave him a glimpse into heaven. Stephen said in Acts 7:56 "*Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God*".

The Apostle Paul had a similar experience in which he speaks about in 1 Corinthians 12:4 where some think he died and went to be in the presence of Jesus where he heard "inexpressible words which a man is not permitted to speak". He is referring to what happened to him in Lystra where he was stoned and left for dead (Acts 14:19-20)

### **So what Does Happen When You Die...First**

#### **1) THE BODY AND SOUL WILL SEPARATE.**

The Bible graphically describes the believer's death as a glorious transfer from mortality to immortality. The external body does cease its functions. It dies. But the "inner man", or spirit, does not die.

*Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Matthew 10:28*

*May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:23*

## **2) THOSE THAT TRUSTED CHRIST GOES IMMEDIATELY TO BE WITH GOD!**

*We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord*.  
2 Corinthians 5:8

*Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."* Luke 23:43

## **THE GREAT DIVIDE**

**Where you go one minute after you die also depends of the choices you make when you are live.** The Bible clearly teaches that all believers that have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior will experience a different resurrection than those that don't

*And you will again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not.* Malachi 3:18

*This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.* Matthew 13:49-50

## **3) THOSE THAT DID NOT TRUST CHRIST WE WILL TALK ABOUT NEXT WEEK.**

### **ENCOURAGE**

We need to be concerned about those that do not give eternity a second thought. We will need to make known the fact that what ever relationship we have with God when we die is the one we will have through out eternity. Invite...Invite...Invite... family and friends to the worship service so they know with out a doubt where they will spend eternity.

Make sure every one attends the service on Sunday; we will be closely examining Hades, Hell, and Heaven.

### **PRAYER**

Ask God to make Himself known to every person in the group and then for them to make Him known to all their family and friends. Let us realize that when we close our eyes in death, there are no second chances. Help us to reflect and live out Jesus in our lives so that others will want to know and accept Him as their savior.